

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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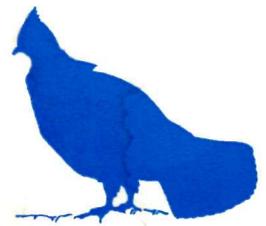


JOURNEY TO MOUNT MCKINLEY—Page 117

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Only that man is truly ethical who feels the necessity of assisting all life that he is able to help, and who shrinks from inflicting harm upon any living creature.—ALBERT SCHWEITZER.



NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

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DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. (See inside back cover.) School or library subscription \$2 a year.

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Devereux Butcher

This view looks southward across the main pool in Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, through which the Fish and Wildlife Service sanctions construction of a super highway. If built here, it would cut across the foreground where the coots are swimming.

Let's Save the Montezuma Refuge

THE Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, an area of only nine square miles, is in imminent danger of being bisected by a four-lane super highway. Administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the refuge is approximately in central western New York, at the northern tip of Cayuga Lake, four miles northeast of Seneca Falls.

In late September, your Field Representative Devereux Butcher visited the refuge. He had not previously heard of the threatening invasion, and discovered that news about it was only then beginning to seep out to some of the state groups seeking to protect nature. Since that time, a number of national organizations have been alerted, and are taking action.

Montezuma is a link in our eastern chain of federal waterfowl flyway refuges. It is the only federal refuge for migrating waterfowl in New York, and the nearest other federal refuges to it are in Vermont, New Jersey and Illinois. It is located on the long flight between the Canadian nesting grounds and the east coast wintering refuges, far to the south. Serving so wide an area, it is easy to see the important part this refuge is playing in the restoration and protection of our waterfowl.

Officers of the Fish and Wildlife Service have known of the intention of the New York Department of Public Works to run their throughway across the refuge for more than a year. It is both surprising and disappointing to realize that the Service, during this period, has failed to enlist the support of its many friends in New York and the nation, who gladly would have gone to bat in defense of the refuge. Why the Service should have sanctioned the Public Works Department's scheme in the first place is difficult to understand, for there are already too few areas set aside in our country for nature protection. As for waterfowl, their numbers are still too small for

security, particularly with regard to certain species; and the ducks and geese are still taking a fierce beating from various sources. Vigorous and inviolate protection of the waterfowl refuges from every kind of disturbing influence is therefore imperative.

Why the Department of Public Works should have chosen to run its highway across the unstable ground of the marsh instead of on solid ground farther north, is puzzling. U. S. Highway 20, which already crosses the southern tip of the refuge, is in constant need of repair in the marsh area; and for the same reason, the New York Central Railroad is now seeking a new location for its main line tracks, which cross the marsh near the refuge.

Established in 1937, Montezuma has had considerable funds spent upon it to make it attractive to waterfowl. Dikes have been built to form two large "pools" for nesting and resting birds, and various food plants have been set out to supplement existing vegetation.

At the time of Mr. Butcher's visit, which was at the beginning of the southward migration, 5000 widgeons had already arrived, as well as a few pintails; while a small number of wood ducks, mallards and black ducks were seen. An outstanding bird of the area is the large, white American egret, which wanders into the area in mid-summer. Traveling north, perhaps from as far away as Florida, these spectacular birds share the refuge with great blue herons, American bitterns and dozens of other bird species. Muskrats are the most abundant mammals of the area.

The throughway fill has already reached to within about a mile of the refuge's eastern boundary, although in late September, work on it had been stopped. If carried on across the refuge, it will cut a swathe hundreds of feet wide along the north end of the best breeding pool. This location will

cut the reservation into nearly two equal parts. One need travel or stand beside a superhighway for only a moment to realize the effect of this road upon the peace and quiet of the refuge; to understand how the ceaseless roar of trucks and cars moving at speeds up to seventy miles an hour will reach the deepest recesses of the refuge; to visualize the inevitable slaughter of birds flying in the path of oncoming vehicles as they cross the road from one side of the reservation to the other, not to mention the added difficulty to the refuge staff in crossing the highway, and the added responsibility of patrolling against poachers.

Obviously, the road would reduce the usefulness of the refuge to wildlife; and it would diminish immeasurably its value to the many visitors who come there almost daily to see and enjoy the birds.

Among the local and national organizations attempting to prevent the throughway from crossing the refuge are the state and national Izaak Walton League of America, the Monroe County Conservation Council, the New York State Conservation Council, Bird Refuges, Inc., The American Ornithologists' Union, the National Audubon Society, The American Nature Association, The Wilderness Society, your own Association and The Conservation Forum of the State of New York. The latter organization adopted the following vigorous resolution at a meeting in the Buffalo Museum, September 19:

WHEREAS it has come to the attention of our members that the proposed route of the New York State Thruway passes through the open water area of the Montezuma Federal Wildlife Refuge,

RESOLVED that the Conservation Forum of New York State deplors the plan which threatens construction of the Thruway over a portion of the Montezuma Refuge in such manner as to bisect the refuge and its main pool; and the Forum calls upon officials, both state and national, to seek and to put into effect some other plan and to assure the people of the state and the nation that the Montezuma Wildlife Refuge shall remain intact as a vital link in the national program of restoration of waterfowl, and

RESOLVED that the Conservation Forum calls upon its affiliated clubs and individual members, as well as upon conservationists of the nation, to protest this proposed surrender of federal property within a refuge to the New York State Thruway, and

RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be mailed to New York State Superintendent of Public Works Bertram D. Tallamy, Albany, N. Y., to Director Albert M. Day of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. and to Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman, Washington, D. C.

It will be possible to save the Montezuma Refuge only with strong and widespread public opinion against construction of the road across it. Your Association urges you to write at once to those three officials named in the foregoing resolution.

A HAWK RIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT?

What do you think of the idea? What would the people in nearby towns think of it in the light of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary's success? How would the National Park Service react to the idea?

Curator Maurice Broun and his wife, and Mrs. C. N. Edge, President, are doing magnificently. But this grand trio cannot stay in harness indefinitely. What then? Turn the sanctuary back to the killers?

It is only one of eleven strategic hawk migration spots along Pennsylvania's Kittatinny Ridge. It is the only one where hawk shooting has stopped. Should the Park Service someday take charge? Then, in time, acquire the other ten locations? Your Field Representative, one day in September, saw 600 broadwings, countless sharpshins, kestrels, six bald eagles, one golden eagle—a thrilling nature exhibit. See *The Epic of Hawk Mountain* in our July-September 1950 magazine.—D. B.

Journey to Mount McKinley

By ARMAND E. SINGER, Member
National Parks Association

WE had just driven up the Alaska Highway to Fairbanks through country picturesque, but hardly superb by Western standards; interesting and vast, but served by an endless, dusty, washboard gravel and dirt road. We were looking forward to this side trip to Mount McKinley National Park, where the peaks of the western hemisphere reach their highest point north of the equator. There is no road leading to the park, although an automobile may be freighted via the

The author is Assistant Professor of Romance Languages at West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.—*Editor*

Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks for \$36.00 round trip for use within the boundaries, if sent at least two days ahead of the passengers. Not having known of this plan in time, we intended to utilize a hotel bus on arrival.

The section of the railway lying between Fairbanks and McKinley Park Station, where the road begins, offers nothing very spectacular. Stepping off the train, we found little more: a few low lying mountains, a pretty if rather sparse forest of white spruce, birch, and aspen, a pleasant hotel. The nearest view of *the* mountain, still over eighty miles away, is to be

When finally it appeared, its crest so lofty and ethereal that it seemed another, snowier cloud, it took several moments for the fact to register on our minds.

Bradford Washburn



had ten miles along the Kantishna road bisecting the park. Talks with the hotel clerk and the ranger at park headquarters two miles up the highway were not reassuring. Rocky Mountain National Park had over a million visitors in 1950; it was surprising to hear that this great preserve, almost eight times as large, often has no more than a dozen visitors a day. So few had arrived on this particular afternoon that it was not at all certain a hotel bus would leave for Camp Eielson to view the peak the next morning. Of the few arrivals, some had shipped their own cars, thus even lessening the chance of getting up a bus party. We wanted to camp out: no likely spot nearer than ten miles. The nights are cold, and our sleeping bags were not meant for freezing temperatures. There are almost no trails in the area, and a ten mile hike with heavy packs over a gravel road did not sound especially inviting either. We could walk the ten miles, camp as best we could, hail the bus (if any) as it went by in the morning. But finally, there was a little problem of weather. Mount McKinley is covered by a tremendous mantle of snow and ice. Clouds frequently form around it soon after the sun vaporizes some of the white cover, which then rises, condensing as it strikes colder air. In short, chances were that a twenty dollar (plus tax) ticket would not yield a good view of the mountain. Dispiriting news for a depleted, "late-summer" pocketbook.

It was then that we had our first piece of luck. We came upon a couple from Texas who had had the foresight to bring their own car. There appeared to be no room, but with true western hospitality they created it, piling this piece of baggage on that, wedging something else into a space that scarcely existed before, and roping our duffle to the rear bumper. A veritable quartet of sardines we were as we started on the sixty-six miles to Camp Eielson. Providentially, their schedule coincided with ours; we could count on

two days for this thrilling excursion.

The late afternoon sun was bright but not warming. The few trees we passed were sparse and thin. A sensation of the immensity of the country—untenanted, inhospitable, chill—blanketed our spirits. Not the sort of country in which to linger fondly, to take to one's heart. Snow-capped ranges marked the horizon. We kept pointing to McKinley: surely this large mass, or that faraway peak must be it, raising its shoulders above the broken clouds. We had been warned that the neophyte rarely locates the mountain correctly, having a tendency to sight far too low on the sky line. At last, we saw why. When finally it appeared through rifts in the clouds, its crest so lofty and ethereal that it seemed another, snowier cloud, it took several moments for the fact to register on our minds. Nothing could be so huge, so high on the horizon when yet so far away. The ice-capped summits we had mistaken for it earlier were of an entirely different magnitude, pygmies beneath a colossus. And even then, we were not seeing the peak in its full glory. This was but a partial glance, caught so to speak at extreme range.

The shadows lengthened as we drove along the endless dirt road, colored a golden brown by the setting sun. Spongy tundra stretched away on each side. Once, across a river, and half a mile distant, we espied a Toklat grizzly bear lumbering over the sward. Viewed even without our glasses, the bear seemed alarmingly huge. Other animals, however, eluded our eye. No Dall sheep or Alaska moose. Later, when I did come across the tracks of a great herd of caribou, these elusive rovers had already migrated to another section of the park. We had to be satisfied with a porcupine and the countless, friendly ground squirrels, which, even in this deserted region, will eat out of one's hand.

We topped Polychrome Pass, the name suggesting the mineral content in the bare
(Continued on page 147)

Grand Teton National Park and Its Elk

By OLAUS J. MURIE, Former Biologist
Fish and Wildlife Service
Director, The Wilderness Society

MEMBERS of the National Parks Association will remember that when the bill to add Jackson Hole National Monument to Grand Teton National Park passed the Congress in 1950 and became law, it still contained the controversial Section 6. This section provides that after joint field study each year, the State Game authorities and the National Park Service shall come to agreement on whether a herd reduction is necessary and shall make recommendations on the manner of such reduction. This provision is in effect for the first time this year, 1951. It may be of value to attempt to take stock of the situation as of the present.

There have been misconceptions about Section 6 and about the elk situation as it affects the park, and it appears to be difficult to clarify it in the public mind. Yet we must keep trying.

First: Does Section 6 open national parks to hunting?

Those who took part in the discussion of the bill while it was still before Congress

The author, for many years biologist, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is perhaps the nation's leading authority on elk today. He is particularly familiar with the elk herds of the Yellowstone-Grand Teton country, for his home has been in Jackson Hole for many years. Just off the press is Dr. Murie's book, *The Elk of North America*, reviewed in this magazine.—*Editor*.

must have been impressed with the fact that the sponsoring Senators, O'Mahoney and Hunt, obviously did not wish to have this happen. They said as much in the wording of the first draft of the bill. They sincerely wished to settle a feud that had been festering in Jackson Hole for some thirty years. They did not propose to open the park to hunting as such, simply by buying a license. Whether wisely or not, they provided that shooters be deputized as temporary park rangers to carry out whatever herd reduction is thought necessary, and, if it is thought necessary, to use park lands for such purpose.

This provision carries with it certain emergency implications. It brings to mind the action taken by the State of Wyoming in 1936 when, to reduce the elk herd, it officially killed several hundred elk on the National Elk Refuge, and sold the meat; and the action taken by the National Park Service in the Yellowstone on some occasions, when some elk were killed officially for the same reason, in cooperation with the Montana Game Department. In each instance the action was taken to remove surplus animals not harvested by sportsmen in the ordinary manner. Nor was it intended to be normal, annual procedure.

Second: How necessary is control within the boundaries of this particular park?

Courtesy Nature Magazine



To answer this question, it is necessary to look at the elk distribution. The Teton Mountains, which are the big features of this park, are not optimum elk range and harbor very few of those animals. Roughly speaking, the Jackson Hole elk herd summers to the north and east of the park boundaries, on Teton National Forest and in southern Yellowstone Park. The elk herd winters chiefly south and east of the park. There is a small group which summers at the north end of the Teton Mountains, in what is generally referred to as the Berry Creek country. This is a mere handful of the entire herd. Also, a few animals winter near the Buffalo Fork at the northeast corner of the present park. This band has been increased somewhat in more recent years by feeding hay, for what purpose I do not know. It has not been done by the Park Service.

The only time the elk occupy Grand Teton National Park lands in any appreciable numbers, is when they cross these lands in migration. Even so, most of them cross a rather narrow portion, and quickly reach national forest land again.

It will be understood then, that the national park itself has no *elk range* problem. The small number summering in the north end of the Tetons could conceivably grow to greater numbers, enough so that they would augment unduly the numbers wintering on the National Elk Refuge. If and when that occurs, a cooperative endeavor to reduce this group would be in order. This need has not yet arisen, and it may be a long time before it does.

The main problem concerns those elk that only migrate across the park lands.

Why, then, should there be hunting at all on these park lands, except in extreme emergency, as suggested above? This is the question many of us have asked for some time. We have contended that, with the vast area of the national forest in which to hunt, the sportsmen have plenty of room in which to spread out.

At this point it is well to examine the

other side of the question. The game department, the forest administrators, and all planners in game management have their problem too. It is their job to remove the surplus elk in an orderly manner. Their special problem is the sportsman himself.

The sportsmen of today are not what we had a few decades ago. There are plenty of exceptions, it is true, but the modern sportsman does not wish to walk far, or, in many cases, to walk at all. Many trophy hunters today, in parts of America where it is feasible, are transported from a base camp to favored game habitats by plane. Many elk hunters prefer to shoot their animals from a car, if possible. Therefore, though I said there are vast areas on the national forest open to hunting, the elk shooters are very reluctant to disperse into that area. They concentrate in a narrow belt across the migration route, not far from the highway, and along the park boundary. Under such conditions, no appreciable reduction in elk numbers is possible except by such concentrated hunting during migration.

Now let's look at the elk shooter's side of it. To begin with, the trophy hunter is in the minority. The great majority of those who come into Jackson Hole after elk, including those who live here, only want "a piece of meat." "Got your elk yet?" is a familiar query during the hunting season. They want "their elk," and they want it most conveniently, and in the shortest possible time.

We have been wont to scoff at the "meat hunter" as below the notice of the sportsman. But consider for a moment. The remaining game habitat is virtually surrounded by mechanized civilization. The animals are sought with high powered rifles, in the hands of hordes of shooters who almost outnumber the animals in some local areas, and often shoot each other. This is not the traditional "sport" of literature, when areas were wilder, and when the shooter had an opportunity to

(Continued on page 149)

DESERTED VALLEY

By RICHARD E. KLINCK

PERHAPS even more intriguing than the others of the many prehistoric ruins that dot the states of the Southwest are the round buildings and square towers of Hovenweep National Monument. Consisting of four separate areas, the monument is located west of Cortez, Colorado, partly in that state, but mostly across the line in Utah. There, at Hovenweep, the mystery of the past clings closely about the faded ruins of an ancient Indian culture that existed many centuries ago. On that vast and lonely high plain, with Sleeping Ute Mountain to the south, and Mesa Verde visible to the east, their four tiny villages lie dead and forgotten.

Because of the difficulty in reaching the monument—difficulty born of our mod-

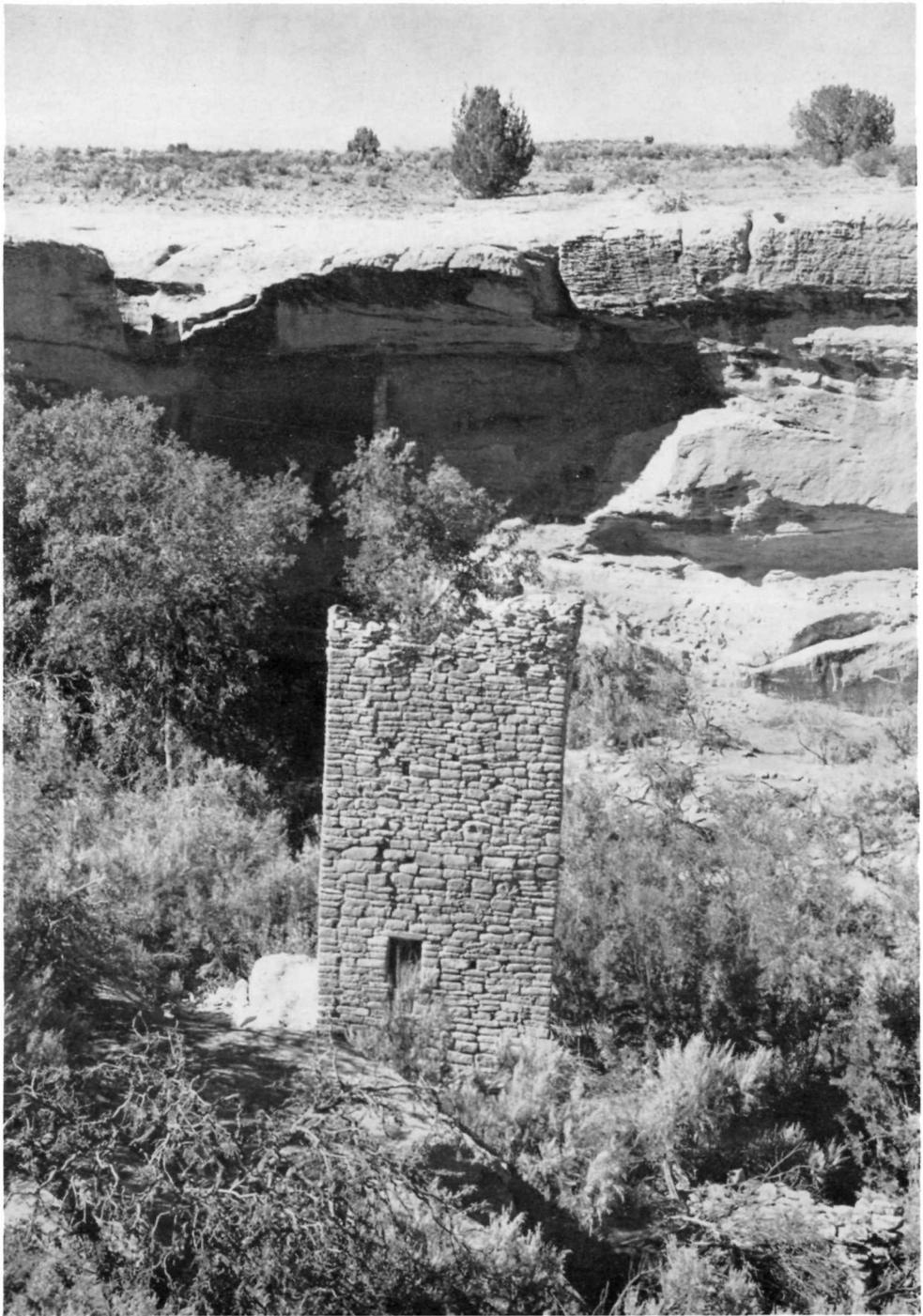
ern dislike for dust, heat, and rough roads—Hovenweep is visited and explored each year by only a few travelers who are interested enough to go out of their way and to put up with rough roads. Fewer than a thousand people visit the area in a year. When I reached there, Hovenweep had not been visited for nine days previously. But perhaps it revels in its neglect, for its dreams of the past are grand indeed! And for those of us who do go there, it is thrilling and satisfying to view something that so comparatively few have ventured to see.

The monument area preserves a region where a race of red men lived over 600 years ago. Archeologists agree only on the amount of time the dwellings have been

These ruins in a rock perched on the rim of Square Tower Canyon show how earnestly the ancients sought advantageous sites for their buildings.

George T. Henry





George T. Henry

One of the most remarkable ruins in Hovenweep National Monument is Square Tower House.



George T. Henry

At left is Hovenweep House, and beyond at the right is Hovenweep Castle. Between these two ruins is the deep gash of Square Tower Canyon.

unoccupied. Except for that, they are sure of little else. The people who lived in that land have left almost nothing that is decipherable. J. Walter Fewkes, that noted government ethnologist who investigated and wrote about many of the ruins in our Southwest concluded that the people lived there with a culture that antedates written history. The crumbling homes and a few fragments of pottery tell little of their story. No white man ever saw these people; and they left no written record. Father Escalante, the Spanish man of God, was probably the first white man to gaze upon the Hovenweep ruins. His party passed by the Hackberry Canyon group, in 1776, and he damned it with slight reference in his diary. It was deserted and forgotten then, as it already had been for several centuries.

Doubtless the Hovenweep people were among those that migrated from the north, perhaps at one time having crossed the frigid Bering Straits from Asia to Alaska. Their advance to the south was marked by increasingly complex architecture and civilization, culminating in the fabulous cliff palaces of the Mesa Verde and the well-designed structures of such smaller groups as Hovenweep. Bordering an area that has often been thought of as the focal

point for the southwestern Indian civilization of old, the ruins of Hovenweep must have been home to a large number of people.

At first, they lived in caves and crudely constructed pit houses. Later they developed better hunting techniques by replacing the dart-slinging atlatl with the more reliable and efficient bow and arrow; and better architectural methods evolved until they were living completely above the ground level, often high above it by adding a second and third story to their homes.

Hovenweep shows traces of a period when the ancient civilization must have been at its peak. In the various ruins are found structures with perfectly built corners, and rooms built of symmetrical curves. The square buildings, and particularly the round ones, which are extreme rarities among Indian remains, show the fascinating complexity that came from these ancient people.

To reach Hovenweep, to view its mystic richness, is a job in itself, a job too many would like to see eliminated. Yet those ready to accept a little hardship will walk among ruins where the dust of the centuries lies deep, where memories of the glorious yesterday linger on. Hovenweep

—the place the Ute nation calls “the deserted valley”—remains unique, created as it was by minds and hands we can never know.

The monument may be reached from either the east or the west, but the road from both directions, actually the same one, is labeled “primitive” on most maps (or else is left off), and goes busily about the task of proving the adjective a most apt one. The complete absence of highway markers to give needed directional assistance lends additional discouragement to the problem of reaching the monument. But it can be done, and it is very worth your while.

To the east the approach is from Cortez, Colorado. The “Hovenweep Highway” leaves U. S. Highway 666 three miles south of Cortez and follows the contours of McElmo Canyon for about thirty-six miles. At McElmo itself, consisting of a single building, the road informally crosses McElmo Creek, informally meaning without a bridge, heads across the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation and into the loneli-

ness of Sage Plain. Several miles beyond the creek, a road similar to the main one heading west, turns right and leads to the Ruin Canyon Group, the only Hovenweep village accessible by road, about six miles to the north.

From the west the road leaves Utah State Highway 47 twelve miles north of Bluff. It passes through sections of desolate wasteland, completely devoid of vegetation, though in many places showing signs of recent man-made attempts at water-control and preservation. This is the land we gave *back* to the Indians! At length, the road crosses Montezuma Creek (dry except during a storm), at the Hatch Trading Post, and meets the Hovenweep turnoff.

The turnoff road leads directly to the main ruin of the four monument groups. On this site the Ruin Canyon Group contains some of the most splendid ruins to be found anywhere in the entire Southwest, Mesa Verde and any of the others not excepted. Ruin Canyon itself is here about twelve miles north of the San Juan
(Continued on page 148)

Hovenweep Castle is perhaps the best preserved structure in the monument. It contained living rooms, several towers and ceremonial kivas.

George T. Henry



In-Holdings Acquisition Advances

By JAMES M. SILER, Chief
Real Estate Branch, Lands Division
National Park Service

IN 1946, there were 609,000 acres of privately owned lands within the national park and monument system. Today, five years later, there are 510,000 acres, or just a little over two percent of all Park Service lands.

This remarkable progress on one of the toughest problems of the National Park Service is the result of public awakening to a realization of the importance of acquiring in-holdings, which has resulted in a comparatively small but extremely helpful annual Congressional appropriation that began with the 1948 fiscal year, together with some real planning and hard work on the part of the National Park Service itself.

The acreage of acquired private lands becomes even more impressive when it is realized that, in 1946, the entire system of park and monument lands comprised a total of approximately 21,000,000 acres. Today, the total stands at 22,250,000 acres. And the fact that there are pending option contracts, exchange applications and expected donations covering some 100,000 additional acres of private in-holdings is further reason to feel optimistic.

In-holdings always have been a serious administrative problem. They impose major difficulties in protection, development and management of the individual

areas in which they lie. *Outdoor America*, the official publication of the Izaak Walton League, in October 1947, editorially referred to private holdings in a federal area as "festering sores in an otherwise unspoiled area belonging to the whole public." Their existence makes possible private development and operation of facilities within the boundaries of the parks and monuments over which there is no public control. Valuable forests thereon can be cut; undesirable resorts can be operated; real estate subdivisions can be established; land-scarring mining operations can be conducted; and other deleterious uses furthered.

So it is important that the whole subject of private holdings be studied and steps taken as quickly as possible to eliminate these "festering sores."

Prior to the '30's, Congress authorized certain funds for land purchase on a fifty-fifty basis. Under this authority an owner selling his land for inclusion in the system donated fifty percent of the land value and received the other fifty percent in cash from appropriated and donated funds. Except for a few acquisitions of large acreage and value, however, this plan was never very successful. Again, the lands thus purchased were utilized generally in rounding out areas rather than in reducing in-holdings.

Just prior to and during the Second World War, Congress made several small appropriations for the purchase of specific parcels. The lands thus acquired were small and had little effect in reducing the over-all problem.

After the First World War, visitors began coming to the Park Service areas in greater numbers, and almost every year since, there have been more and more

Association members are familiar with the private in-holding problem, for the subject has been repeatedly mentioned and discussed in our magazine for years. It is gratifying, therefore, to present this revealing account of the magnificent work of the National Park Service in striving to bring these lands into public ownership. In our April-June 1947 issue appeared the article *Private Lands in National Parks*, by Newton B. Drury, worth reviewing at this time.—Editor.

visitors, until today, there are nearly 33,000,000 visitors annually.

Of course, this enormous increase produced ever-growing problems of administration and protection which, in turn, necessitated increased development. As the need for protection and development increased, the in-holding problems became more serious in at least equal and perhaps greater proportion. To the extent the in-holdings continue to exist, it is impossible for the Service to fulfill its obligations to the nation.

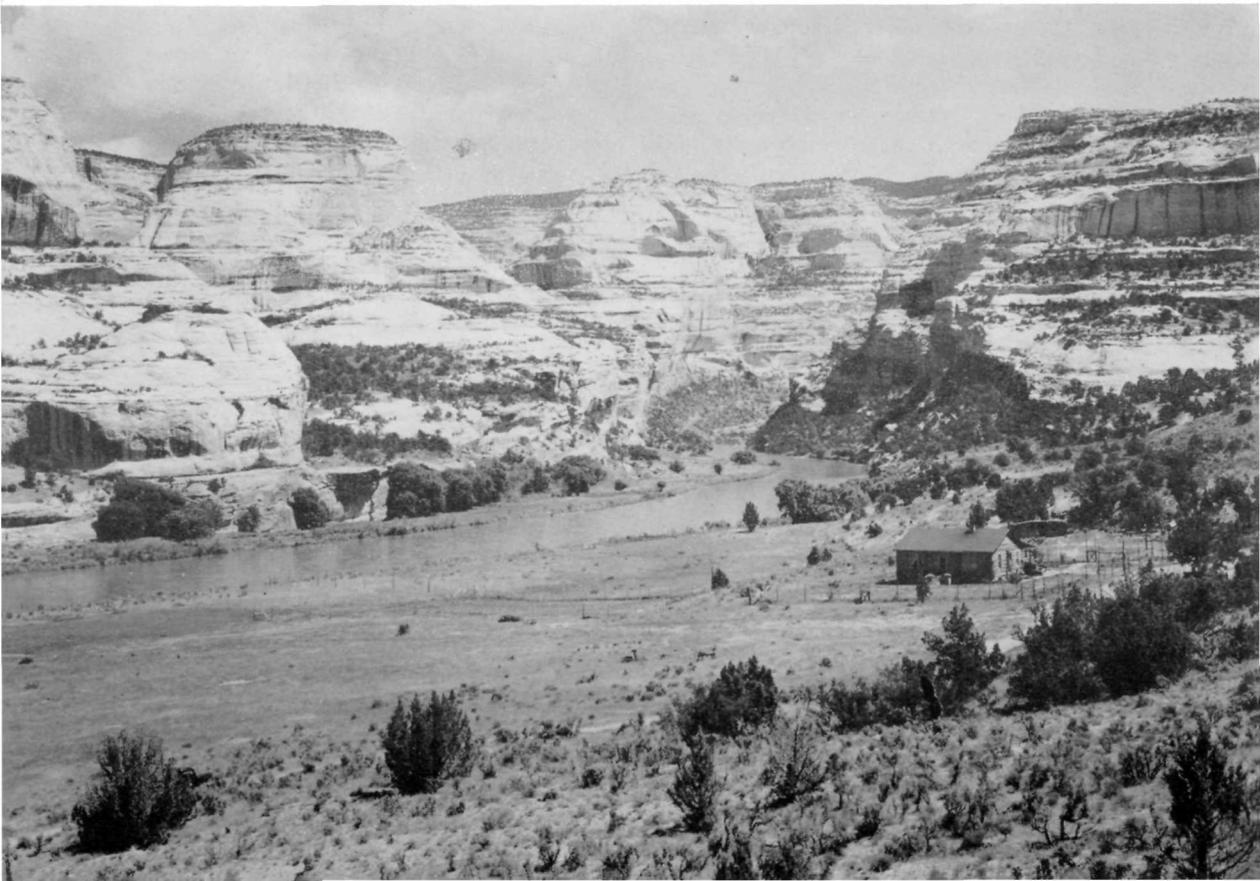
An important step was taken when, in the legislation authorizing establishment of Shenandoah, Great Smoky Mountains, Isle Royale, and other national parks, the provision was made that all lands within certain described boundaries must be acquired before the parks in question could be established.

With the realization that the in-holding problems were the most serious facing the Service, definite plans for reducing them were started about the time the Second World War ended. There was set up in the Lands Division of the Service a Real Estate Branch, one function of which was to assemble and analyze all data pertaining to the non-federal lands within the system. As a result, by the middle of 1946, the ownership, description, and approximate value of nearly all of the in-holdings in the entire system were obtained.

By analysis, these in-holdings were broken down into categories, viz., those that the Service felt could be acquired by exchange or donation, and those that it believed would have to be purchased. Moreover, priorities of acquisition were set up by area and by region. By the beginning of the fiscal year 1947 (July 1, 1946), the

This ranch in Dinosaur National Monument is typical of the private in-holdings needing to be acquired by the National Park Service.

George A. Grant



Service was ready to put its plans into effect.

There was placed in the Service's budget for fiscal year 1947, an item of \$350,000 for the acquisition of in-holdings. Although the item was approved by the Bureau of the Budget, it failed of passage in Congress. However, the fact that the in-holdings were such detriments to proper park or monument administration, protection, and development had become so obvious to the visiting public and to Congress by that time that, thereafter, for fiscal years 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952, there have been appropriated to the Service a total of \$975,000 for the purchase of in-holdings.

The reduction of in-holdings by categories during the past five years is as follows:

(1) By donation—approximately 44,000 acres.

Important acquisitions by this means are the 100-acre Great Head peninsula in Acadia National Park owned by Mrs. Eleanor Morgan Satterlee; a 640-acre section owned by Texas within Big Bend National Park; the approximately 36,000 acres owned by Jackson Hole Preserve, Incorporated, in Grand Teton National Park; a thirty-six-acre parcel at Chalmette National Historical Park owned by Louisiana; the twenty-six-acre Schuyler (House) property at Saratoga National Historical Park; about 1500 acres donated by Tennessee for Natchez Trace Parkway; a one and twenty-six-hundredths-acre parcel, including important ruins, owned by the Southwestern Monuments Association, in Aztec Ruins National Monument; 120 acres in Cedar Breaks National Monument, paid for by the Commissioners of Iron County, Utah; 120 acres donated by Florida for Fort Matanzas National Monument.

In addition to the above, but not included in the 44,000 acreage figure, since the lands are not actually in-holdings, 1000 acres were donated by Iowa for establishment of Effigy Mounds National

Monument; twenty-four acres for establishment of De Soto National Memorial; one acre, including the historical Castle Clinton, by the City of New York for establishment of Castle Clinton National Monument; the 3500-acre Cone Estate for addition to Blue Ridge Parkway; a fifty-eight-acre parcel for headquarters at Joshua Tree National Monument; and forty-two acres by the William Kent Estate for a buffer strip to protect Muir Woods National Monument. Also, Florida has donated some 870,000 acres of land and \$2,000,000 for acquisition of privately owned lands needed for establishment and extension of Everglades National Park. At this time, a goodly portion has been expended for the purchase of approximately 360,000 acres of privately owned lands. The Tennessee Valley Authority transferred about 44,000 acres for addition to Great Smoky Mountains Park.

Moreover, the Service has strong expectations of receiving by donation several parcels in Acadia National Park; ten additional sections by Texas in Big Bend National Park; additional acreage in Grand Teton National Park; an additional 200 acres by Iowa at Effigy Mounds National Monument, and several thousand acres from North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi for the Blue Ridge and Natchez Trace parkways. The total of such donations is expected to be not less than 15,000 acres.

(2) By exchange—approximately 55,000 acres.

During the past five years, by this means, some 33,000 acres have been acquired from the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in Joshua Tree National Monument; 9500 acres from California in Death Valley National Monument; 3200 acres from the University of New Mexico in Chaco Canyon National Monument; 7300 acres from Arizona in Wupatki National Monument; and 1300 acres from South Dakota in Wind Cave National Park.

Pending, as this is written, are exchanges involving some 40,000 acres in Joshua Tree National Monument; 4500 acres in Death Valley National Monument; 10,000 acres in Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park; and 6000 acres in Saguaro National Monument. Due to the time needed to proscribe to all laws and regulations pertaining to the exchange of the public domain, it usually requires a year or more to complete an exchange. Therefore, the Service has reasonable expectations that the pending exchanges will be consummated within the next two years.

(3) By purchase—approximately 32,000 acres.

Important purchases have been a 325-acre tract for right-of-way and protection of the north entrance road at Big Bend National Park; some 1500 acres, including one 640-acre section owned by Montana and 450 acres owned by Flathead County, Montana, in Glacier National Park; a most important parcel, consisting of 160 acres, lying on the south rim of Grand Canyon; 500 acres in Lassen Volcanic National Park; 120 acres adjacent to the McKinley Hotel in Mount McKinley; an unsightly abandoned mining claim of about forty-six acres in Mount Rainier; some 1200 acres in Rocky Mountain; 900 acres, including the Cascades and White Wolf tracts in Yosemite; the Old Stone House and sixty-six acres of surrounding land at Manassas National Battlefield Park; about thirty acres, including the site where Lord Cornwallis surrendered to the American forces, in the Yorktown battlefield portion of Colonial National Historical Park; seventy acres of important historical properties at Gettysburg National Military Park; two Indian allotments totaling about 280 acres standing in the way of proposed developments in Glacier Bay National Monument; 160 acres, including a vitally needed water supply, in Wupatki National Monument; eleven acres at the entrance to Muir Woods National Monument; and approximately

24,650 acres owned by the Southern Pacific Railroad in Joshua Tree National Monument, purchased at an average cost of eighty-five cents an acre. All of the lands just mentioned were acquired by direct negotiations with the owners, at prices determined by outside disinterested appraisals.

As this is written, the Service is negotiating for the purchase of a 320-acre parcel containing the most important water supply in Death Valley National Monument; another unsightly mining claim in Mount Rainier National Park; and other strategic tracts in Glacier, Lassen Volcanic, Mount McKinley, Rocky Mountain, and Yosemite national parks, Craters of the Moon, El Morro, and Saguaro national monuments, Colonial National Historical Park, and Petersburg National Military Park. It is hoped that funds will be made available to purchase an additional 3000 to 5000 acres in the next two years.

From the above, the tremendous progress in reducing in-holdings in the national park system can be readily seen. This progress should be allowed to continue to whatever degree the present world situation allows.

Former Director Newton B. Drury, in summarizing his 1946 article, *Land Policy Review*, on in-holdings, stated that the most serious private land problems were (1) those created by the 10,000 acres of state-owned lands in Glacier National Park, (2) the railroad lands in Joshua Tree National Monument, and (3) the real estate subdivisions in several of our western national parks. The first of these has been considerably lessened by the purchase from Montana of one section of 640 acres, and action by the Montana Legislature in authorizing exchange of the remainder. The second has been nearly eliminated by the very successful program of land exchanges and the action by Congress, in September 1950, in reducing the monument boundaries. The third is undoubtedly greater today than in 1946, since very little of the



National Park Service

A stand of ponderosa pine on non-federal land, north of Anaconda Creek in Glacier National Park, is subject to being logged unless acquired.

Alternative Sites for Dinosaur Dams

General U. S. Grant, III, formerly with the Army Engineers, has written a report on his study of the Colorado River basin plans of the Bureau of Reclamation as these pertain to the Bureau's proposal to build Echo Park and Split Mountain dams in Dinosaur National Monument. Following are the General's recommendations and a number of his remarks contained in the report:*

A COMPETENT COMMENTATOR has recently said, in reviewing the Bureau of Reclamation's Upper Colorado River Storage Project, 'the report is actually a preliminary treatment of a plan to provide regulatory storage capacity and power production facilities for the Upper Colorado River basin without full development of fundamental data for the comprehensive planning of such a system . . . authorization of such plans should be sought only after the basic elements have become reasonably firm. When major questions remain unsolved, premature authorization may actually hamper and restrict future planning.'

"The principal reason given by the Reclamation Bureau for insistence on these two dams is evidently due primarily to the Bureau's desire to set a precedent for encroachment on such a prohibited area and its belief that it has here a case in which local public opinion has been so far sold on the merits of the project that legislation can be obtained to exempt it from the general policy.

"Had the Reclamation Bureau started with a loyal effort to comply with the policy established by Congress in the 1935 amendment to the Federal Power Act, the Upper Colorado project doubtless could and would have omitted the two dams in the Dinosaur National Monument, and would have been materially different and probably a sounder project from the standpoint of benefits to the ultimate optimum economic development of the region served. Further inquiry has indicated that

the rest of the project, other than the two Dinosaur Monument, the Glen Canyon and the Navajo dam sites, have been so little and so superficially studied as to cast doubt on the feasibility and construction costs of its other parts. For instance, the Gray Canyon dam, in the project report, was to be 440 feet high above the present river elevation and to store 2,000,000 acre feet. It now appears that the foundation will rest on shale and that only a lower earth dam probably will be practicable; also, that this storage deficiency may be made up by building the Desolation dam not now included in the project. It is evident that, without further detailed field investigation and estimates of cost based on facts, not on assumptions and premises, so costly a project should not be approved.

"The distinguished Senator [Watkins] from Utah says: 'The Desolation site, suggested as an alternative by General Grant, would provide too small a reservoir and was never seriously considered by the Bureau of Reclamation.' This is the sort of statement, coming as it evidently does directly from the Bureau, that justifies lack of confidence in its arguments: The Bureau has itself estimated the storage capacity obtainable by a dam at the Desolation site at as much as 7,700,000 acre feet! This is substantially more than the 335,000 acre feet obtainable in the Split Mountain reservoir and the 6,400,000 acre feet proposed at Echo Park added together, and yet the Bureau clamors for them, and has, according to the Senator, 'never seriously considered' the Desolation Reservoir with the greater capacity 'because too small.' It will certainly have to consider this site, if the

*See *This Is Dinosaur* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1950.

foundation conditions at the Gray Canyon site prove inadequate for the high dam contemplated. As the project does not now include the Desolation dam, any legislation authorizing the project as is, will have to be amended. This is just one example of the sort of field investigation needed before the project is really fit for presentation to Congress.

"Surely the Congress will not authorize this so costly project without assuring itself that the necessary factual information has been obtained, having in mind the Colorado-Big Thompson project, which was estimated to cost \$44,000,000, but which cost up to \$200,000,000.

"The proponents of the project place much emphasis on the evaporation factor. Computing reservoir evaporation from pan observations is still what the Secretary of the Interior, in his August 6, 1950, newspaper release, justly spoke of as 'a comparatively little-known but important phase of water resources development' and called 'an old hydrologic mystery... One difficulty originates from the fact that no one knows just how much moisture the atmosphere demands from a given expanse of water under different climatic conditions.' In the same release, announcing the establishment on Lake Hefner near Oklahoma City of a research project for a better solution of this mystery, the Secretary of the Interior goes on to say that 'the Bureau of Reclamation's engineers *must know* exactly what losses by evaporation are likely to occur before they take a dam past the investigation stage.' And yet the proponents of this project, without such exact knowledge, propose to railroad through this tremendously costly project and destroy a most unique national monument. And they have the effrontery to quote a guessed-at and manifestly exaggerated 350,000 acre feet loss by evaporation as an argument against even considering substitute dam sites to save the national monument.

"Every fanatical advocate of a project

sees and pleads its importance to national defense, and much ingenuity is shown by speculative business interests to find reasons why some of the flowing dollars should be diverted to their business. A project involving such colossal and indeterminate costs as this Upper Colorado project is too good an opportunity to be neglected. The proponents are indeed moved to be pleading for the immediate construction of the Echo Park dam to meet some unrevealed defense purpose, regardless of the fact that it is difficult to conceive of any such need which could not be met equally well by power from the Cross Mountain or Flaming Gorge dams, and strangely enough, with entire disregard of the six years the Bureau of Reclamation counts on taking to build the Echo Park dam, and the subsequent years (how many depends upon the weather) needed to fill the reservoir. In other words, you cannot count on the Echo Park dam being built and effective for national defense purposes in the present emergency. Long range future needs can be met by one of the reservoirs outside Dinosaur National Monument.

"The project, as proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation, is economically unsound for the interests of the area to be served. To make a show of its being self-liquidating in the sales talk to Congress, it contemplates the construction within twenty years of dams greatly in excess of what are needed to regulate the flow of the Upper Colorado River system so as to meet the requirements of the promised discharge at Lee's Ferry and present local requirements. This urgency proposed is for the production of electric power beyond the immediate present market, the sale of which, if a market can be found, it is claimed will pay for the cost of the project; but subsequently with the growing use of water for agriculture, municipal use and other purposes, this supply for power will decrease and the added requirements for power, artificially created by the block

of unneeded federally subsidized power thrown on the market, will be contending with farmers and municipalities for the water. The Bureau of Reclamation apparently thought that the supplementary power needed to meet this problem may be obtained by commercial production of power by waste gas, a by-product of the shale oil refining industry. However, according to the most recent information of the Bureau of Mines, the needed quantity of surplus gas will not be available.

"The Bureau wants funds to go ahead with having its own way; what difference does it make how much public money is spent, or whether the power can be sold at the assumed profitable price, if the Echo Park dam in Dinosaur National Monument can just be built and a precedent established for destroying this unique bit of our national heritage?

"It is inconceivable that Congress would at this time of financial stress, authorize this costly project, if it understood to what extent it is still speculative, destructive and likely to do ultimate harm rather than good to the community itself. Wisdom in lieu of salesmanship justifies elimination of the destructive Echo Park and Split Mountain dams, the authorization now of only a few elements to meet local needs for the next score of years, and a considerate restudy and revision of the project on the basis of facts to be ascertained by thorough field surveys.

Recommendations

"In view of the recognized necessity for a sound, well-thought-out project for the Upper Colorado River system, and of the paucity of reliable factual data, the following is recommended:

(a) That the Secretary of the Interior concur in legislation authorizing the early construction of the dams to be known as Flaming Gorge, Cross Mountain, White-water (Bridgeport) and Gray Canyon, with the proviso that the Gray Canyon site be given special study with relation to the

suitability of foundation conditions and the possible advisability of substituting the Desolation Canyon site therefore, or a combination of both;

(b) That he order the remainder of the project to be restudied after adequate field investigation with a view to the elimination of all encroachments on national monuments and national parks; that the National Park Service investigate the probable impact of the Glen Canyon Reservoir on Rainbow Bridge National Monument and any other similar doubtful cases; and that the Bureau of Indian Affairs report any objections it may have to the Navajo Reservoir;

(c) That the revised project be integrated with present and prospective participating projects and with private and commercial uses of water (or comprise a practicable plan for so doing), and that a mutually consistent program be outlined; and finally,

(d) That the development of electric power be planned to meet the natural growth of demand, avoiding any artificial stimulation of the market which would create a demand that cannot be met in the later stages of the project.

"There is no thought on the part of any conservation interest to deprive the citizens of the Upper Colorado River basin of any drop of water which they need or can put to use in bettering their communities. On the contrary, it is the Bureau of Reclamation which has deprived and continues to deprive the people dependent upon the waters of the Colorado River system of some 200,000 to 300,000 acre feet annually by its diversion through the Colorado-Big Thompson project.

"Objection is made, however, to the unnecessary destruction, at incalculable expense, to the already heavily burdened nation, of one of our great natural, scenic wonders, which has been reserved legally for the benefit of the American people and has unique inspirational and recreational values."

The Battle of Buttle Lake

IN August, your Executive Secretary, Fred M. Packard, was invited by the British Columbia Natural Resources Conservation League and Ducks Unlimited to fly to Vancouver Island to aid the people of British Columbia in their vigorous effort to preserve Strathcona Provincial Park. The problem was strikingly similar to some of the attacks on the national parks of the United States, and again demonstrated the need for public vigilance to protect primeval parks in every country.

Strathcona Park was reserved by the provincial parliament forty years ago to protect forever 328 square miles of high mountain country in the center of Vancouver Island. Along the northeastern side of the park lies Buttle Lake, which is within the park, except for its northern end. The British Columbia Power Commission wants to build a hydroelectric dam at the north end of the lake, which would raise the water level many feet, and has applied for a

permit for construction. Unlike the procedure in our Congress and state legislatures, where any member may introduce any legislation he wishes, in Canada no bill may be introduced into the Dominion or provincial parliaments without the consent of the government in power. The provincial government favors this dam, and has refused to allow the proposal to be brought before the legislature, where it certainly would be voted down.

In order to build this dam, it would be necessary to log the shoreline forests. In place of the virgin firs and cedars comparable to those in the Olympic rain forest of Washington, there would be a tangle of stumps and snags, exposed at times of draw-down, and a menace in high water. This would discourage any use of the lake by campers. One of the unique features of Buttle Lake is the series of fine gravel beaches, perfect for camping and swimming. These, too, would vanish if the dam

Scenic, primeval Buttle Lake is sheltered by the snow-capped peaks of Strathcona Provincial Park on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

Fred M. Packard



were built. Buttle Lake is the logical entrance to the higher country of the park, and if it were devastated, the value of the park for public enjoyment would be drastically reduced.

No geological or other surveys have been made to determine whether a dam can be built on Buttle Lake, and it is doubtful that the site has suitable foundations. There are other good sites on Upper Campbell Lake a little farther north, in an area that has been stripped of its forest and that has no particular value except for power production. The Power Commission admits there are better sites, but protests it would cost more to build a dam there. Resolved to a question of the wisest use of each location, it is obvious that one of the lower sites should be used.

When news of the application became public, the people of British Columbia rose to the defense of their park so trenchantly that the matter became a major issue in the province. Every newspaper in British Columbia headlined the objections to the Buttle Lake dam daily for weeks. Water Comptroller E. H. Tredcroft, who will make the decision on the application, called a hearing to determine the public interest involved, and citizens and organizations of the province testified for days against the project. It was believed that an explanation of the principles of park protection as applied in the United States might be helpful in the discussion, and Mr. Packard was asked to testify. He described the wasteful destruction of our natural resources and primeval areas in this country, while our population pressures are generating increased need for outdoor pursuits to offset danger to the mental health and moral standards of the nation. Analyzing the economic significance of travel to our national parks, he pointed out that our people are turning more and more to Canada for wilderness recreation.

"It is proper, I believe," Mr. Packard concluded, "that as a citizen of a neighboring country, I appeal in the name of my



Fred M. Packard

Towering Douglas firs, up to ten feet in diameter, stand on the shores of Buttle Lake. If the lake is dammed, this forest will be cut.

people to the Canadian authorities to prevent the devastation of this superb area, that they build their dam on the feasible alternative site. The boundaries separating our nations are merely a line on a map, for we are all intimately concerned with the future of the entire continent. We of today are not actually owners of these lands, with the right to use or abuse them as we see fit in our time. Rather, we hold a life tenure in them, and our greatest duty is to administer them so wisely that our children and grandchildren may derive from them just as full enjoyment and benefit as our own generation. We of the United States have made sad and costly mistakes in the treatment we have given our heritage. Canada is yet relatively undespoiled, and we hope she will deal with her natural treasures more wisely than has her neighbor."

Our Ever Changing Fauna

By AUSTIN H. CLARK, Member

Board of Trustees, National Parks Association

A FAUNA is a living thing, subject to continual change. In the geologic past these changes were relatively slow. They were mainly due to alterations in the sea and land areas resulting in the isolation or union of regions, or to the effects of changes in altitude, rainfall, humidity, or temperature. Some animal types became progressively restricted in their ranges, finally being confined to a small area or to widely separated regions, or dying out completely, while others, more adaptable,

spread into new regions. Isolation produced special centers of evolution, as in South America and Australia, where many new subtypes were developed from primitive stock. When isolated areas became joined, as North and South America, and North America and Asia, an interchange of animals took place, with resulting competition.

Since the dominance of man, faunal changes have taken place at a progressively increasing rate as a result of deforestation, the spread of agriculture, the killing off of many animal types, and the planned or accidental introduction of others into new regions.

Up to the time of the coming of the Europeans the changes in the American fauna were undoubtedly due entirely to natural causes. Although many mammals now extinct, for instance the mastodon, were contemporaneous with early man in America, there is no evidence that their extinction was in any way due to man. But since the settlement of the country by Europeans, profound changes have been brought about, especially east of the Rocky Mountains.

A few of the distinctive American types have become extinct, as the passenger pigeon, the Carolina parakeet, and the eastern heath-hen, and even, in southern Florida, one of the commonest and prettiest of our butterflies *Eumaeus atala florida*, with two other butterflies in California. Among the winter visitors of early days,

The flamingo, beauty of the tropics, has been much reduced in numbers.

Lake Wales C. of C., Courtesy Nature Magazine



Appearing here in English for the first time, this is republished with the kind permission of the Editors from an article on North America (in Hebrew) in the *Encyclopaedia Hebraica*, Jerusalem, 1951.

the great auk and the Labrador duck have completely disappeared.

In addition to the types that are wholly gone, many others are greatly reduced in numbers, having been killed off for their flesh, hides, or feathers, because of their depredations, or simply for sport. A few have died away because of their inability to adapt themselves to changed conditions. Among these are the bison or "buffalo," moose, elk, pronghorn, wild sheep, mountain goat, grizzly bear, puma, Canada lynx, northern wolf, wolverine, the eastern variety of the fox squirrel, the manatee, many of the fur-bearers, especially the beaver, the pine marten, and the fisher.

Among the birds that have been greatly reduced in numbers are the California condor, largest of the terrestrial flying birds, whooping crane, ivory-billed woodpecker, trumpeter swan, flamingo (a former visitor to Florida), sandhill crane, wild turkey, roseate spoonbill, Eskimo curlew, egret, snowy egret, glossy ibis, golden eagle, and raven.

Among the reptiles the alligator, crocodile and the sea turtles exist only in a fraction of their former numbers. Of the fishes, all the true sturgeons, *Acipenser*, and the Atlantic salmon have become scarce, and as a result of the pollution of the streams, many other anadromous fishes are now much less numerous than formerly. Even among the butterflies, the world's largest and finest fritillary *Argynnis diana* is now exceedingly local, and in most places rare. Some of the mammals and birds mentioned are still common in the West, or beyond the borders of the United States, especially in Canada.

The same process of reduction and ultimate extinction of important elements of the original native fauna has, of course, taken place everywhere else, but it has been much more rapid in the United States than elsewhere, because of the rapid spread of Europeans into primitive regions, followed by the extension of rail and steamship transportation, the unrestricted use



Courtesy Nature Magazine

Fur-bearer of the north, the wolverine has been trapped so persistently that it is now almost extinct.

of firearms, and the expanding markets, both domestic and foreign, for animal products, especially furs, hides, and feathers.

By far the most interesting of the mammals now greatly reduced in numbers was the bison. At the time of the first settlements, the bison roamed in enormous herds over the western plains and ranged from New Mexico northward to lat. 63° N. in Canada. In the East, though common, it was much less abundant, here, ranging from Georgia to, in the summer, southern New York; but it was not found on the coastal plain. To the native Indians the bison was indispensable for food and for the various purposes to which the horns, hide, and hair were applied. The hide is an excellent winter covering, and even a generation ago "buffalo robes" were universally used on sleigh rides in winter. The great value of bison hides for winter garments was demonstrated during the Crimean war, in 1853-56.

In the West, the bison proved to be a great hindrance to settlement, and a menace to transportation. The railroad company offered various inducements to gunners to kill off these animals, which interfered seriously with the running of their trains, and thousands were wantonly slaughtered and left for the wolves and vultures. In the eastern newspapers and

magazines, accounts of this wholesale slaughter began to appear, often accompanied by pictures. These accounts and pictures, together with the obvious decrease in the numbers of the once unbelievably abundant passenger pigeon, and of the moose, elk, deer, turkeys, swans, geese, ducks, beavers, and other creatures, and the extensive trade in wild game, toward the end of the last century gave rise to a widespread popular sentiment for the protection of the rapidly decreasing wildlife. This sentiment increased in succeeding years and found expression in the passage of many laws, both state and federal, for the protection of mammals, birds, and fishes through the restriction of hunting and fishing seasons, licensing of hunters and fishermen, limitation of the numbers that could be killed, and the creation of national and state parks, wildlife refuges, and other restricted areas where hunting is not permitted. At present, many interesting elements of our native fauna exist only under strict protection; were this removed they would soon disappear.

The first of the national parks, the famous Yellowstone, was established in 1872. With the growing density of population, the sentiment for setting aside restricted

"Sport" shooting is causing the bighorn and its various subspecies to become scarce.

Guy E. Mitchell, Courtesy Nature Magazine



Allan D. Cruickshank, Courtesy Nature Magazine

Once native to a large part of the West, the condor now breeds in but one canyon in southern California.

areas gradually increased so that since 1910 no less than twenty have been established, nine in the past twenty years. National forests were first set aside in 1907, and in 1903, the first of the national wildlife refuges.

In the transformation of the original fauna of the United States another important factor was involved. This was the killing off of animals occasionally harmful, though in the main beneficial. The fear of poisonous snakes such as the rattlesnakes, moccasins, copperheads, and coral snakes causes most people, who do not distinguish one kind of snake from another, to regard all of them with suspicion. Therefore there is an almost universal impulse to kill all snakes at sight. But most American snakes, even the rattlesnakes, are distinctly beneficial, and should be killed only



Allan D. Cruickshank, Courtesy Nature Magazine

Shooting and destruction of habitat have made the sandhill crane a rare bird.

near human habitations. The smaller snakes feed mainly on insects, the larger chiefly on mice, rats, and hares. To a farmer, a hawk is a hawk. Occasionally he sees a hawk pick up a chicken and he does not realize that different kinds of hawks have different habits, most of the larger ones feeding mainly on rodents. So he shoots every hawk he sees. Foxes also feed mainly on hares and rodents, though sometimes they will raid the henhouse of a farmer who is not intelligent enough to be able to outwit the fox.

The indiscriminate killing of snakes, hawks, and foxes has had the result, in certain areas, of allowing the field mice, hares, and similar creatures to increase greatly in numbers, this increase being aided by the concentration of their natural food on farms, so that they have become a serious menace to crops and stored products. This destruction has forced the government to intervene with an extensive program of rodent control to do the work formerly done by the snakes, hawks, and foxes.

Except among fox hunters, there is no

public sentiment in favor of foxes, especially now that some of them have been found to be afflicted with rabies. But the value of snakes has long been recognized in the poorer sections of the Southeast, where many people keep as a pet around the house and barn a tame black snake, a non-venomous kind that grows to a length of six feet, and is a far more dependable rat-catcher than any cat. People elsewhere are gradually learning the value to them of the non-venomous snakes. Hawks also are receiving sympathy. Hawk Mountain, near Hamburg, Pennsylvania, is a famous point from which to watch the annual migration of hawks, which pass in great numbers. Formerly quantities of them were killed as they flew by, but now they are strictly protected and the sight of this spectacular migration is enjoyed every year by many bird lovers.

The upsetting of the normal faunal balance through the reduction in numbers and extinction of native animals is only one side of the picture. The other side is the introduction, intentional or accidental, of various creatures from abroad, especially from Europe. Domestic cattle, horses, donkeys, sheep, goats, pigs, dogs, cats, Old World rats and mice, poultry,

The moose is the victim of gunners, but it responds readily under protection.

Charles E. Johnson, Courtesy Nature Magazine



ducks, geese, European swans, pigeons, house sparrows, and starlings are commonplace. Most of these remain within bounds, but a few, as cattle, horses, donkeys, pigs, rats, mice, and pigeons sometimes become locally, and usually temporarily, established. The rats, mice, house sparrow, and starling have increased enormously and spread widely. Many different kinds of birds have been introduced, but most of them soon died out. The ring-necked pheasant and the Hungarian partridge are successful in certain areas. The European tree sparrow is established about St. Louis, and the European goldfinch and the skylark still are occasionally reported in the general vicinity of New York. Various escaped cage birds, even parrots, are sometimes noticed, and there are many records of accidental visitors, mostly from Europe. Partially successful introductions among the mammals were the camel in the Southwest, now killed out, and the European wild boar and red fox, in the East, brought in for sport. Among the fishes the carp and the goldfish, both originally from China, are locally established in the East. A number of native fishes have been transplanted to areas in which they do not normally occur.

A very large number of insects have been introduced, chiefly from Europe, though some from Africa, Asia, tropical America, and even Australia. Many have become serious pests. Among these introduced insects are the cabbage butterfly, common everywhere; the gypsy moth; the brown-tailed moth; the ailanthus silkworm moth; the corn borer; clothes and flour moths; dermestid, grain, and many other beetles; and various obnoxious flies. In the South there are a number of serious pests on cotton and other crops such as

the boll-worm, cotton moth, white-fringed and bean beetles, mostly from farther south. The large and handsome butterfly *Hypolimnas misippus*, introduced from Africa, is sometimes seen in Florida, and in the Southwest there is another smaller African butterfly and some African ants presumably brought in at the time of the introduction of the camels. Many other invertebrates such as earthworms and land planarians have come in with potted plants or, like the golden nematode, a serious pest of potatoes, in other ways.

Still another factor is operating to alter the faunal aspect on the United States. With deforestation, clearing of the land for agriculture, and erosion, some species are becoming more and more restricted in their ranges while others are spreading into areas where they were previously unknown, especially from the western to the eastern part of the country, and from the south northward. In the case of closely related forms this has in some cases resulted in the production of hybrids over a wide area. This trend has been noticed in most animal groups. As familiar examples may be mentioned the Colorado potato beetle—the common “potato-bug”—and the orange alfalfa butterfly *Colias eurytheme*, both originally western, but now abundant over most of the East, where the alfalfa butterfly has hybridized extensively with the endemic yellow species.

Reduction of the original fauna, with the extinction of various elements and the introduction of exotic forms through the voluntary or involuntary agency of man, is modifying the fauna of every region of the world as effectively as, and far more rapidly than, the geological and geographical changes of the past.

It is a pleasure to report to members that our Association's book, *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*, has been used as a textbook for several years in one of the courses at Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College; and that this year it is to be used also at Long Beach State College, California.

GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE DEDICATED

DEDICATION of Grand Portage National Historic Site, in Minnesota, on August 9, added a unique scene of early American history to the national park system. Long before the first French explorers and trappers sought access to the riches of the Northwest, early in the eighteenth century, Indians portaged birch canoes over the Great Carrying Place from the shores of Lake Superior into the vast lakeland of what is now northern Minnesota and southern Ontario. Great Britain gained control of the nine-mile portage about 1763; soon intense rivalry developed between French, British and colonial American traders. In 1785, the North West Company built a stockade and blockhouses to protect sixteen buildings that served as the focal point for travel into the wilderness until after the War of 1812.

The American Revolution and uncertainty about the precise boundaries between the United States and Canada led to disputes over which nation should control this profitable trade route. These difficulties were resolved in 1842 by the Webster-Ash-

burton Treaty, which established the portage as United States soil, but provided that citizens of both nations should have use of the trail without customs or other restrictions. Some years later the area was included within the Chippewa Indian reservation. Use of the famous portage as a commercial route had declined by that time, and soon ceased altogether.

The Minnesota Historical Society studied the site of the abandoned fort in 1922, and at its suggestion, the Bureau of Indian Affairs reconstructed the stockade and a few principal buildings in 1937. On July 18, 1951, President Truman approved the agreement between the Chippewa Tribes and the United States to protect the trail and trading post as a national historic site.

The dedication was a colorful affair. Assistant Secretary of the Interior Dale E. Doty caught the spirit of the occasion as it revived the scenes of yesteryear: "Here the voyageur, trapper, explorer and curious traveler planted their moccasined feet on the trail and lifted the burden of their long

(Continued on page 150)

The Association's Vice President Sigurd F. Olson reads a message from President Truman at the dedication. He is flanked by the flags of the United States and Canada.

Fred M. Packard



At the Nature Protection Battlefronts

HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY ASSOCIATION, 767 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y.—The Association makes steady progress. Its membership now stands at more than 1700. The hawks that fly in safety over the sanctuary are a protest against the ignorance and foolishness of man, who would destroy that of which he does not understand the value. At the sanctuary the value of the hawks and eagles travels directly from the mind to the heart of the observer. The sight of the birds does more to win people to conservation than any recital of the hawks' stomach contents.

We have doubled our building fund, which now stands at \$9,729.67. An able architect is giving volunteer service. We expect to start building in the near future, but shall need twice that sum to complete the building and furnishing. We need one room where visitors may gather in the evening and seek shelter in rainy weather. Our sermon on the mount comes to an abrupt end with rain or darkness, whereas discussion may continue indoors. Our membership includes scientists, teachers and lecturers who are ready to put their talents at our disposal.

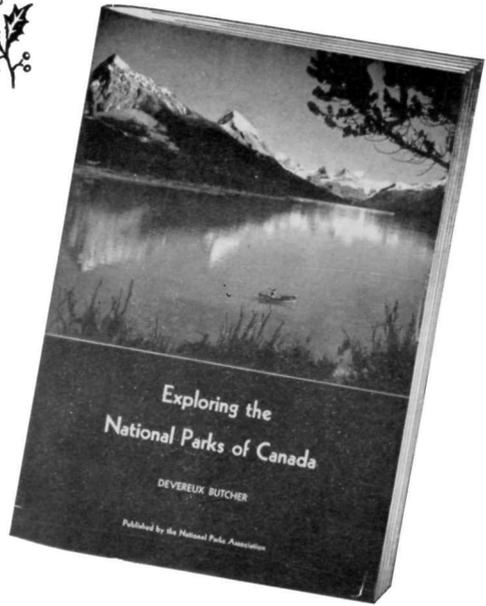
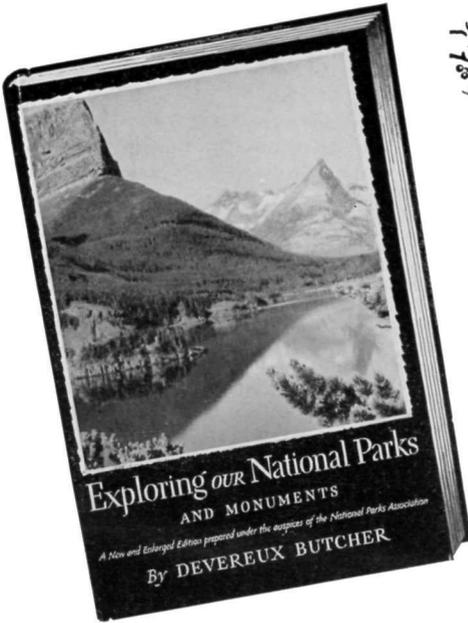
We need a scholarship to provide the salary and expense of an assistant curator. A double good might be accomplished, if this were given as a grant to a graduate student of one of the universities now giving degrees in conservation. We need a garage, a workshop, storage space and a car. The curator continues his multiple work as teacher, friend and counselor to visitors, while at the same time guarding the Sanctuary, improving its facilities and extending its usefulness. The new road sweeps up the Mountain bringing hundreds who never before have visited us. But it also brings responsibilities. It is impossible for one man to carry on alone. It is equally impossible that we should turn away hundreds of people who in becoming conservationists will also be better citizens. We ask our friends to seek gifts for our work.—Mrs. C. N. EDGE, *President*, in *Thirteenth Annual Report*.

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, 1214 16th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.—Michael Straus is U. S. Commissioner of Reclamation. As such it is his responsibility to ex-

tend the reclamation program of his bureau as far as appropriations will allow. As a party wheelhorse, it is also Mike's opportunity to keep the political wagon rolling for the Truman administration. He performs the responsibility with a singleness of purpose that is a credit to him in his allegiance to his job, but, we feel, a discredit to him as a servant of *all* of the people. Evidence shows he is an enemy of national parks and the national park ideal; that he would invade any national park or monument to exploit dam sites within them if he could get away with it.

It is a below-the-belt blow—and you know it, Mike—to declare that those who oppose your plans for Dinosaur want it preserved as "a museum and cemetery for dinosaur bones." Intimating that those of us who are defending the monument oppose the Colorado River basin development is a deliberate distortion. When it comes right down to cases, Mr. Commissioner, we do not trust you. Doing the job you plan for Dinosaur would be a handy precedent to justify other invasions of park areas for similar purposes. We think it is dangerous.—RICHARD W. WESTWOOD, *Editor*, in *Nature Magazine*.

CANADIAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION, 4795 St. Catharine Street West, Montreal 6.—Conservation-minded Ontario looks after its birds and beasts. Fourteen large areas have been set aside in northern Ontario, and 112 smaller sanctuaries in southern Ontario, all protected by guardians of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. In addition to the Crown Game Preserves are the provincial parks which are closed to the hunter and trapper. Some counties are almost wholly preserves. Many farms and estates are posted against hunters. Some countrymen have become so concerned over our vanishing species of wildlife as to present their farms to the county or province as sanctuaries. Most noteworthy is the 2000-square-mile Woodland Caribou Crown Game Preserve. For years, scientists have watched the woodland caribou dwindle, due to loss of feeding grounds and to poachers. No exact estimate has been made of the caribou in that area, but there may be 200.—LYN HARRINGTON in *Forest and Outdoors*.



Solve Your Christmas Gift Problem with These Beautiful Books

EXPLORING OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS, third edition, describes 26 national parks, 36 nature monuments and 18 archeological * monuments. In 288 pages, it contains 284 magnificent photographs of scenery, animals, birds, wild flowers and prehistoric Indian ruins in the reservations; tells how to reach each area by automobile, bus or train; where to stay, including hotels, lodges and campgrounds; what to see and do; and names important trips in the parks. Three maps show locations of all areas described.

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* The national archeological monument series, although included in this larger book, is also available in a separate 64-page booklet entitled *Exploring Our Prehistoric Indian Ruins*. Anyone specifically interested in archeology can obtain this booklet by enclosing \$1 additional and marking X beside "Archeology" on the coupon.

National Parks Association, 1214 16th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

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THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

THE NATIONAL PARKS, What They Mean to You and Me, by Freeman Tilden. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1951. Illustrated. Appendixes and index. 450 pages. Price \$5.

It might be expected that with Freeman Tilden as writer and Alfred A. Knopf as publisher, a superb literary work would result. A writer for many years, Mr. Tilden became a collaborator and consultant for the National Park Service in the early 1940's. Although a number of excellent books on national parks have been written, none, perhaps, is on so high a literary plane as this. Having visited most of the parks and many monuments during his term with the Service, and being a staunch supporter of park standards, Mr. Tilden misses no opportunity to bring out park problems and threats. This he does in his own delightfully entertaining manner, and liberally seasons it with humor. For instance, how airily yet convincingly he treats the depressing subject of the Olympic Park threat:

Certain commercial lumber operators of the Northwest gaze at the magnificent timber stands of Olympic National Park with all the avidity shown by a herd of cattle looking at a corn field through a barbed-wire fence. It is not merely that the growth is so luxuriant. The trees happen to be, for the most part, so accessible that the lumbering operations would be relatively cheap—though the price of the finished product, laid down on the veteran's house lot, might never reflect it. In normal times such attempts to invade and despoil the parks of their treasures are met by the National Park Service with the help of the hundreds of thousands of members of conservation societies throughout the country and by all others who love and reverence the unspoiled wilderness of the park system.

When so rebuffed, those who wish to take a profit from the public domain fall back upon the well-known crisis. There are many kinds of crises, but they can be reduced to three categories: the genuine crisis, the illusory crisis and the fabricated crisis.

The first of these is rare, and when it does occur, it is as generally recognized as an eclipse of the moon. Nobody need take anybody's dictum about it. The last genuine crisis of the United States was in World War II. Yet it was not found necessary, during that genuine crisis, to alter in any important way the policies of preservation of the national parks in their full integrity. Happily, the parks emerged from the war substantially intact.

The illusory crisis is the kind that the rich neurasthenic uncle has every time the doorbell rings. It does no harm to Uncle provided some designing heir does not grasp the opportunity to send him to the lunatic asylum and get himself appointed conservator of the estate. Easily excited people rush into the street during an illusory crisis crying: "What shall we do?" Honest people pat them gently on the shoulder and reply, "Nothing. Just go home and take an aspirin and go to bed." Scheming people say: "You are in dire danger. Let me hold your wallet and your watch, and I will help pull you out of this mess." The crisis passed, the wallet, watch and helpful friend have vanished.

Likewise, the fabricated crisis is not a crisis at all. It merely wears the false mustache of one. The latest fabricated crisis in connection with Olympic National Park has been invented against a background of the shortage of housing, especially for veterans. Without reducing this precious outdoor museum to a lot of stumps, it is urged, how can the veteran build a house? Do you want the returned soldier to sleep on a park bench just so you can preserve a parcel of mere trees?

If anyone should ask you these questions, I suggest that the answer should be: "Don't be ridiculous. If you happen to be sincere and disinterested, take a sedative. If you have an ax that needs to be ground, think up something bigger and better in the way of crises; that one creaks in its joints.

Mr. Newton B. Drury, director of the National Park Service from 1940 to 1951, in the introduction, tells how this book came to be:

"When Alfred Knopf a few years ago

joined the easterners who have discovered the western national parks, he felt that something ought to be done about this institution which so many Americans take for granted, but which increasing millions have been discovering each year. The national parks appealed to him as an element in our culture and a symbol of the American way of life regarding which the public should be made more aware.

"Most people in this state of mind say: 'There ought to be a law.' But Alfred Knopf said: 'There ought to be a book.'"

Here, indeed, was great good fortune for the national park system, for Publisher Knopf, just one among millions of park and monument visitors, could carry out this decision, and he proceeded at once to seek an author.

More books, more good literature on national parks, like the Tilden-Knopf production, are needed, for only through an informed public can we hope to preserve the park and monument system from commercial despoilment.

The high cost of *The National Parks* is likely to hold sales to a minimum, and we can hope that a much less costly edition of it will appear in the near future.—D. B.

THE ANIMAL WORLD OF ALBERT SCHWEITZER, translated and edited with an introduction by Charles R. Joy. Published by the Beacon Press, Boston, 1950. Illustrated. Index. 207 pages. Price \$3.

One of the first objectives of national parks and monuments is to provide inviolate sanctuary to wild creatures. It is probable that those who first conceived this function of our parks had in mind the preservation of species and the esthetic value of wildlife to humanity, and that little thought, if any, was given to the moral or ethical side of man's treatment of the creatures with which he is sharing the earth.

Today more thought is being given these implications in man's relation with wild creatures. A leader in this field is Dr. Albert Schweitzer. Those who ceaselessly ponder

the tragedy of pain and death needlessly inflicted by man upon animals, will find reflections of his own thoughts in numerous passages of this book.

"The great experience of my childhood and youth was the influence of the commandment that we should not kill or torture. All other experiences pale before it," says Dr. Schweitzer. For years, he strove to solve to his own satisfaction the problem of what should be a proper attitude toward life. In later years the phrase "reverence for life" occurred to him. And in these sentences he sums up his philosophy:

I am life that wills to live in the midst of other life that wills to live. I must interpret the life about me as I interpret the life that is my own. My life is full of meaning to me. The life around me must be full of significance to itself. If I am to expect others to respect my life, then I must respect the other life I see, however strange it may be to mine. And not only other human life, but all kinds of life: Life above mine, if there be such life: Life below mine, as I know it to exist. Ethics in our western world has hitherto been largely limited to the relation of man to man. But that is a limited ethics. We need a boundless ethics which will include the animals also.

Certain sections of *The Animal World of Albert Schweitzer* are outstanding, such as the introduction; Part I, *Impressions of an Alsatian Child*; Part III, *Animals and Ethics*; and Part IV, *Reverence for Life*. This book deserves the attention of everyone who loves animals and hopes for peace and a better world to live in.—D. B.

HOW TO KNOW THE AMERICAN MAMMALS, by Ivan T. Sanderson. Published by Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1951. Illustrated in color and black and white. Index. 164 pages. Price \$2.50.

As is to be anticipated of any book from the pen of so facile a writer as Mr. Sanderson, this popular identification guide is in a simple style attractive to the general reader. It fills a need not supplied by the more formidable handbooks. It is an excellent book to give to students, Boy or Girl

Scouts, or other young naturalists, to encourage their interest in nature, or to give to friends to increase the pleasure of their trip across the country or on an ocean voyage. In addition to the superb Fuertes' colored plates, Mr. Sanderson's own drawings add to the character of the volume.

The function of the book is to enable the layman to identify the mammals he may encounter anywhere in America, and it fills this purpose well. One might wish that space had permitted the inclusion of discussion of the status of the many mammals that are decreasing through persecution, exploitation or natural hazards, and the steps that should be taken to protect them. Our mammals are confronted with such serious problems in their efforts to survive, that simply learning to identify them is only a first step toward positive action on the part of every citizen to work for their preservation. The author is well-known for his interest in wildlife protection, and the omission is unfortunate. In spite of it, the book should prove useful and popular.—*F. M. P.*

THE ELK OF NORTH AMERICA, by Olaus J. Murie. Published by the Stackpole Company, Harrisburg, and the Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, D. C., 1951. Illustrated. Index. 376 pages. Price \$6.50.

No one but Dr. Murie could have written so masterly a compendium of knowledge about the American Elk, or wapiti, for his many years of field study throughout North America have established his reputation as the outstanding authority on the subject. In addition to his unequalled scientific knowledge of the elk, he has devoted constant effort to assure the best possible preservation of the herds as wild members of the American scene. His book stresses the need for the wisest care for the animals and their ranges, and presents cogent advice about necessary management practices. It should be in the library of everyone seriously interested in American wildlife.

It is a complete monograph, and there is hardly a fact known about the wapiti that will not be found in its pages. The history, behavior, status, and character of the animals is discussed in detail, as well as the complexities of the "elk problem" and its solution. Until this book was available, naturalists had to rely on Seton's out-of-print *Lives of Game Animals*, which is no longer adequate in the light of modern studies. The Wildlife Management Institute has performed a real service in adding this expert work to the series that has included similar volumes on the mountain lion, wolf and antelope.—*F. M. P.*

Members and their friends may now order some twenty kinds of note papers, cards and calendars, illustrated with full-color paintings of birds, flowers and butterflies, by Roger Tory Peterson, Lee Jacques and other artists, directly from the National Parks Association. They are ideal for Christmas gifts, thank-you notes, and informal correspondence. Special folders are being sent to members. Others may obtain the folders on request from Association headquarters.

Arrangements are being made to have an additional series of these note papers and cards issued with illustrations of the national parks and monuments, under the auspices of the National Parks Association. These will be published next spring.

Proceeds from the sale of these items will provide additional funds for your Association's work, and the publication of the new series will help develop public interest in the welfare of the national parks. It is hoped that members will find this new service useful, and that it will help solve their Christmas shopping problems.

MOUNT MCKINLEY

(Continued from page 118)

rock which has lent a touch of rather somber color, then Thorofare Pass, and reached Camp Eielson just before dusk.

During the past two years, this has not been operated as a camping ground. The tent cabins and the community hall have been left unlocked, and we found them in a somewhat leaky, battered condition. We plundered the various cabins of enough odds and ends—army cots, a table or two, kerosene lamps, and washbowls—to furnish two cabins, collected a few damp boards for kindling, and prepared supper. The nearest water is not around the corner, but we eventually found a brook up the road. Icy, clear, and well aerated, it furnished drink such as tap water never provided city dwellers. Of course it was a bit rigorous when applied externally, but then, in such cold, no one is very anxious to wash anyway.

We watched a gorgeous display of alpenglow gild the fresh snow on the slopes of the peaks in front of us. As mountains go, they were not very elevated, but at this altitude bare of trees. Mt. McKinley was once again shrouded in its misty cloak of invisibility. The cold gradually penetrated every garment we had to put on, drove us shivering into our inadequate sleeping bags. We hopefully dampened what little fire was left in the stove, and it presently went out. A streak of the aurora borealis, greenish and eerie, played across the segment of sky visible through the cabin window. The air turned colder and colder.

Around three I awakened, absolutely stiff. Forced into a Hobson's choice, I arose to make a new fire. The thought then struck me to go outside to see whether "that old devil," as our Texas friend's wife called it, was free of cloud.

The sight before me was one that in years of viewing and climbing mountains in every kind of weather and in all seasons I have never seen equalled. Mount McKinley lay clear save for a narrow band

of mist circling its waist. A gibbous moon flooded its awesome mass of ice and snow with a spectral light, against a backdrop of purest purple. No sound rent the air, no wind, no trickle of water. The mountain seemed an arm's length away, yet infinitely distant; solid, yet unreal like this moment, a vision of perfect beauty.

It could not last, and I do not hope to experience its like again. Cold—that reminder of the earthly reality which colors all glimpses of paradise, as fatigue darkens the exultation of a mountain climb, as a cough breaks the spell woven by a Beethoven sonata—cold sent me back to the cabin.

Three hours later we were all watching the snowy giant in the splendor of the early sunlight of the Northland. 20,300 feet high it stands, 18,000 feet above the valley floor, supposedly the highest mountain from base to top in all the world, and one of the most massive. Below us starts the Muldrow Glacier, winding miles and miles up the slopes of the mountain, the climbers' avenue of ice to the summit.

Later in the morning, we drove twenty miles west to Wonder Lake, to have revealed to us a different facet of the mountain's beauty. Already clouds were beginning to obscure the glistening face, although the peak was still impressive through and above its broken cover. We motored on out of the park to Kantishna, pretty much the end of the road. There one can still see placer mining on a moderate scale.

The day grew steadily worse as we returned to Camp Eielson. A party from the hotel, whom we met at noon, told us that they had had but one glimpse of the mountain, and that from seventy miles away. It was now entirely obscured.

In the afternoon, I scaled the summit ridge just north of the camp and traversed the line of hills some thousand feet above our cabin, for a time following the route of a caribou herd. It is a delight to climb at this relatively low altitude, and the pure

air and the exertion are a heady wine for one who loves the outdoors. A momentary monarch of all I surveyed, I was intoxicated with the savage joy of conquest. Just then I could have scaled any height, conquered any obstacle. The mountains bring on that illusion sometimes, but perhaps it is not the worst of the world's stimulants. In any event, as a state of mind, it is rarely permanent, but exceedingly pleasant while it lasts.

Snow and rain fell alternately. McKinley was a solid mass of gray-black cloud, a focal point for the storm, its location only to be guessed behind an opaque cover. All around oblique bands of light and darkness revealed other storm centers. To the south I could see the triangle of Camp Eielson below me—a cluster of Lilliputian buildings—and beyond, over the range of low-lying summits that the evening before had caught the alpenglow, rose a great peak of shining white, bathed in a remnant

of light not yet extinguished by the storm.

Dinner was not the cheeriest of meals. Our spirits were dampened by the rain. Luckily we found some quilted khaki comforters to ward off the cold of the night.

Next morning dawned fair, but it was hours before the clouds were dissipated from the mountain. We caught our last sight of the king of the Alaska Range a few miles from the train station, serenely clear once again. We said goodbye to our Lone-Star friends, boarded the afternoon coach for Fairbanks. It was not the newer, through, Fairbanks to Anchorage train on which we had arrived, but an antiquated local. Its wooden seats did not afford a very pleasing finale to our two marvelous days in the park. Yet, as we bumped along, tired and grimy, we could not lose the memory of that majestic giant which might well assume Everest's title of Chomolungma, "Goddess Mother of the Snows." We could not forget it; we never will.

DESERTED VALLEY

(Continued from page 124)

River, eventually draining into it by way of McElmo Creek. It begins without warning, quickly dropping away to a depth of 300 to 500 feet, with steep walls. Hovenweep House, a large semi-circular structure that once housed fifty people or more, stands at the head of Ruin Canyon, or, more properly, its south fork, which is identified as Square Tower Canyon. The canyon namesake, Square Tower House, is one of the most remarkable of all that are in the monument, and has been built upon a slight rise from the canyon floor. Hovenweep Castle, on the northern rim of the canyon, across from the Square Tower, is another of the more outstanding ruins. It is probably the best preserved ruin of all, built in two wings that form an L-shape, and with walls that even today remain standing more than twenty feet high. These walls, carefully and beautifully built of the native stone, reveal at once the ingeniousness of its designers.

The Hackberry and Keeley Canyon Groups are located in Colorado. A short hike of perhaps twelve miles round trip is required to reach those groupings. The trail leads you to the interesting remains of Hackberry Castle and Horseshoe House. Cajon Canyon Ruin, to the south of the main road, is approached by a southbound turnoff to the Montezuma Trading Post on the San Juan River. A short walk takes one from the road to the Cajon Group, which contains a major ruin known as Cool Spring House.

What happened to these people, and where did they go? Why did they build the strong and unique round and square towers that are so peculiar to Hovenweep? No one knows. Perhaps no one ever will. Only one thing can be sure. The Hovenweep ruins ask more questions than they care to answer. In the dry air and the hot sun of summer on Sage Plain, or in the cool shadows of a winter night, with its uncountable stars, Hovenweep, the Deserted Valley, sleeps, as if dreaming of the past.

TETON'S ELK

(Continued from page 120)

exercise woodsmanship and skill.

Today, therefore, we have an army of shooters who are frankly after meat, plus a little contact with the mountain country for a day or so. In all fairness, is not this motive as defensible as any? After all, it harks back to the real wilderness hunter who killed to provide for camp and found satisfaction in "living off the country." Many who hunt elk in Jackson Hole find it economically a boon thus to be able to provide for the winter larder. Many cannot afford a long pack trip after elk. While I am not attempting here to define the ethics of hunting game, I would by no means decry the "meat hunter," provided he acts like a gentleman in the field.

We see, then, that the management of a game herd, with its tendency to grow out of bounds in numbers, and the tendency of people toward mass hunting, is not entirely simple.

It so happens that the "zone" of hunter concentration lies along the highway, partly within the border of the national park.

The Forest Service, responsible for the soil and vegetation on public land; the Fish and Wildlife Service, concerned with the forage supply on the National Elk refuge; and the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, responsible for humane and orderly removal of surplus elk by shooters, are all concerned with the handling of the situation. The fact that the zone of normal shooter-concentration lies along the highway, partly overlapping the park boundary, brings the National Park Service into the problem to that extent. This is especially true since this border strip has been opened to hunting repeatedly in recent years, and thus established a precedent of a sort.

Everyone concerned with national park purposes and policies has no doubt looked to this first season's operation of Section 6 with some apprehension. What will be the precedents established? Will a state, that at one time took the federal government

into court over this question, now find it possible to cooperate with a nationally established policy, a policy of long standing, supported by the American people?

As a matter of fact, there are some hopeful signs.

In the fall of 1950, in accordance with the new law, state and federal technical personnel made joint investigation of the elk migration and reached agreement on facts. This was to be expected, for the true scientist, whatever his affiliation, seeks the truth.

Then in February, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission had its meeting with the officials of the Grand Teton National Park. The result was a recommendation to open to deputized elk shooters a narrow strip of park land along the northeast border. The Forest Service had urged reduction of the elk herd because of overstocking on winter range. Apparently it had been felt that this year could be considered one of the emergencies contemplated by the bill and that it would be desirable to facilitate taking a considerable number of elk by utilizing some of the border zone of the park.

Perhaps I am overly optimistic. Perhaps I am reading into this some wishful thinking. But there are some developments that appear promising. Remember, that for years the so-called Antelope Flats, within the park, has been a subject of argument, since that was the location of automobile, fring-line type of hunting in the past. At the February meeting, it appears that the State Game authorities, much to their credit, did not request hunting on that much-disputed territory. If this means that they have repudiated that type of hunting by car, and have eliminated that area from consideration, they have done a public service.

There is another area that has been critical, from the general public's standpoint. The so-called Berry Creek summer elk range, at the north end of the Tetons, which carries a limited number of elk, is

the only area remaining to the public where hunting does not take place. This is the only area remaining in the Jackson Hole region where scientists and other visitors have the opportunity to observe the elk through the rutting season and hear their bugling, unmolested by the intrusion of shooting. Some little spot like that should be held for the general public.

It is known that there has been some pressure to open that Teton area to hunting. It is noteworthy, therefore, that the Game and Fish Commission agreed to leave it alone.

In other words, the two agencies achieved agreement. It appears, furthermore, that some of the members of the state agency were particularly cooperative, and had sincere appreciation of the problems of a national park. In matters of this kind, attitudes may be more important than the actual recommendations adopted.

I am reminded of a conference in North Dakota, at which the North Dakota Game Department officials expressed sincere interest in the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, and unreservedly offered their complete cooperation in restoring and maintaining its wildlife in accordance with national park ideals.

GRAND PORTAGE

(Continued from page 141)

birch-bark canoes or their packs or their bundles of precious furs along the famous portage. They were a sturdy breed, who worked hard, played hard, and fought hard and courageously. They faced danger calmly, and were able to endure the hardships of their way of life with patience and cheerfulness."

As Premier of Ontario Leslie M. Frost approached the wharf for the ceremonies, kilted Highlanders skirled their bagpipes, descendants of the voyageurs in buckskins and sashes stood as escort, and the Chief of the Chippewas stepped forward to welcome him. Flags of Canada and the United States flew high above the stockade over the crowd

It should be mentioned too that, in Jackson Hole itself, former opponents of national parks have dropped the thought of further opposition. The Act of Congress settled it, and the people as a whole have settled down to enjoy the beauties of the valley and plan for the future. Can we look upon all these occurrences as a trend?

The millennium is not here. America still has the politicians, national and state, who make a practice of setting up straw men to battle heroically for the edification of local constituents, to the detriment of interstate relations, and relations between state and federal governments. We might remember the noble struggle Lincoln carried on to hold our nation together in a great crisis. The task still remains. We must look to all the sutures of our nation; that they do not become cleavages.

Certainly we may take comfort from any circumstances that tend to eliminate internal suspicion and warfare, and to bind us in a program of understanding of different public needs. From the standpoint of this larger problem of national unity, as well as present prospects of application of Section 6, I am inclined to submit a hopeful view of the new Grand Teton National Park.

of Indians, and white visitors assembled on the shore. Following a pioneer luncheon in the timbered trading post, Mr. Sigurd F. Olson read a message from President Truman, and dignitaries from Canada and the United States spoke of the importance of Grand Portage as a monument to the pioneer development of America.

Dedication of this new historic site has special significance because it is a gateway to the famous Quetico-Superior country. This evidence of continuing interest of the people of the United States in the preservation of the natural and cultural features of this region gives encouragement to efforts to establish the lakeland wilderness as an international peace memorial park through joint action by Canada and the U.S.A.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

82nd Congress to October 1, 1951

Appropriations for defense have risen to such astronomical figures that Congress debated for weeks about what to allow for normal government operations. Fortunately, due partly to strenuous efforts of conservationists and nature protectionists to show Congress the importance of our national parks and monuments, the appropriations for the National Park Service have been more nearly commensurate with its responsibilities of recent years. For 1952, the Service received \$27,646,564. In addition to funds for administration, protection, and maintenance of facilities, \$173,255 was provided for salvage of archeological material and other studies in river basins affected by dam construction projects. \$585,000 was allocated for acquisition of lands, part of which will be used to acquire Paradise Inn in Mount Rainier National Park and to save the site of historic Fort Caroline, in Florida. \$2,500,000 will be used for road improvement and completion, but no new roads may be built. Payroll limitations will cause serious hardship, since the Service is still operating at about half-staff.

Most of the following bills have been reviewed in recent issues of *The Parks and Congress*, and so are not analyzed in detail. Unless otherwise noted, the bills are before the House or Senate Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs, or both:

H. R. 1221 (Regan) To authorize the acquisition of the remaining non-federal lands within Big Bend National Park. Passed the House; pending before the Senate committee.

H. R. 1638 (Murdock) To facilitate the management of the National Park System. Passed the House; pending before the Senate committee.

H. R. 1733 (Farrington) To authorize the establishment of the City of Refuge National Historic Park, in the Territory of Hawaii. Passed the House; pending before the Senate committee.

→ **H. R. 1870** (Angell) To extend federal protection to the Bald Eagle in Alaska. Before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.—Letters should be addressed to the Honorable Edward J. Hart, Chairman.

→ **H. R. 2897** (Lantaff) To authorize the establishment of a wildlife management area in the Florida keys. Before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.—Progress in this effort to save the key deer was reported in our July-September 1951, issue, page 111. On September 25, the bill was revised in committee, and should pass the House in the near future. Letters urging immediate enactment should be addressed to Senator Edwin C. Johnson, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

→ **H. R. 5023** (Johnson of California) To prohibit the construction, operation, or maintenance of any project for the storage or delivery of water within or affecting any national park or monument. Before the House committee.—Since the rise of public power projects, including many proposals to construct dams in or near national parks or monuments, there has been urgent need for a clear restatement of the intent of Congress that such dams are illegal and may not be built. This bill makes that statement in explicit terms. It has been strongly endorsed by the National Parks Association. Members are urged to express their views to the Honorable John R. Murdock, Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and to their own Senators and Congressmen.

H. J. Res. 115 (Morris) To establish a congressional commission to study the need for simplification, modernization, and consolidation of the public land laws. Before the House committee.

S. 75 (McFarland and Hayden) **H. R. 1500** (Murdock) **H. R. 1501** (Patten) To authorize the construction of Bridge Canyon dam on the Colorado River. Passed the Senate; pending before the House committee.—It is unlikely that any further action will be taken on this legislation this session.

S. 109 (McFarland and Hayden) **H. R. 1213** (Patten) To protect scenic values along the Grand Canyon Park South Approach Highway (State 64) within the Kaibab National Forest, Arizona. Public Law 77.

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Why the National Parks Association

ORIGIN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AND SERVICE

Wanderers penetrating the wilderness that is today known as Yellowstone National Park told tales of the natural wonders of the area. To verify these tales an expedition was sent out in 1870. At the campfire one evening, a member of the expedition conceived the plan of having these natural spectacles placed in the care of the government to be preserved for the inspiration, education and enjoyment of all generations. The party made its report to Congress, and two years later, Yellowstone National Park came into being. Today its geysers, its forests and its wildlife are spared, and the area is a nearly intact bit of the original wilderness which once stretched across the continent.

Since 1872 twenty-six other highly scenic areas, each one a distinct type of original wilderness of outstanding beauty, have also been spared from commercial exploitation and designated as national parks. Together they comprise the National Park System. To manage the System the National Park Service was formed in 1916. In its charge are national monuments as well as other areas and sites.

COMMERCIAL ENCROACHMENT AND OTHER DANGERS

Most people believe that the national parks have remained and will remain inviolate, but this is not wholly true. Selfish commercial interests seek to have bills introduced in Congress making it legal to graze livestock, cut forests, develop mines, dam rivers for waterpower, and so forth, within the parks. It is sometimes possible for an organized small minority working through Congress to have its way over an unorganized vast majority.

Thus it is that a reservoir dam authorized in 1913 floods the once beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park; and that during World War I certain flower-filled alpine meadows in the parks were opened to grazing. The building of needless roads that destroy primeval character, the over-development of amusement facilities, and the inclusion of areas that do not conform to national park standards, and which sometimes contain resources that will be needed for economic use, constitute other threats to the System. The National Parks Association has long urged designating the great parks as *national primeval parks* to distinguish them from other reservations administered by the National Park Service. The Association believes such a designation would help to clarify in the public mind the purpose and function of the parks, and reduce political assaults being made upon them.

THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

The Association was established in 1919 to promote the preservation of primeval conditions in the national parks, and in certain national monuments, and to maintain the high standards of the national parks adopted at the creation of the National Park Service. The Association is ready also to preserve wild and wilderness country and its virgin forests, plantlife and wildlife elsewhere in the nation; and it is the purpose of the Association to win all America to the appreciation of nature.

The membership of the Association is composed of men and women who know the value of preserving for all time a few small remnants of the original wilderness of North America. Non-political and non-partisan, the Association stands ready to oppose violations of the sanctity of the national parks and other areas. When threats occur, the Association appeals to its members and allied organizations to express their wishes to those in authority. When plans are proposed that merely would provide profit for the few, but which at the same time would destroy our superlative national heritage, it is the part of the National Parks Association to point the way to more constructive programs. Members are kept informed on all important matters through the pages of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

To insure the preservation of our heritage of scenic wilderness, the combined force of thinking Americans is needed. Membership in the National Parks Association offers a means through which you may do your part in guarding the national parks, national monuments and other wilderness country.

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT
AND THE NATIONAL PARK POLICY
CONCERNING WILDLIFE
ARE THE SAME:
THOU SHALT NOT KILL